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MARKET BOSWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1971

MARKET BOSWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1971

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1971.

Statistics

The estimated population shows an increase of 820.

The birth rate has risen from 17.7 to 18.6 per thousand populations. In a number of other areas this rate has fallen. In actual numbers, 44 more babies were born in 1971 than in 1970 in Market Bosworth. There were 23 illegitimate births, all of whom survived. The illegitimate birth rate is lower by half than the rate for England and Wales.

The adjusted death rate for 1971 is 10.1, the same as in 1970. This compares quite favourably with the rate for England and Wales. 178 of the 361 total deaths were of persons aged 75 and over. Fewer persons died from lung cancer and coronary disease than in 1970.

The infant mortality rate - that is deaths occurring under one year - was 3 as compared with the national rate of 18.

Infectious Disease

There was no large outbreak of serious infectious disease, and only two fresh cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

Since the introduction of vaccination against measles there has been a big drop in the number of notifications of this disease.

German measles, though not a notifiable disease, is very important because if a woman develops the disease during the first three months of pregnancy there is a possibility of the infant being born with a congenital defect such as blindness or deafness. Older girls from 11 years of age are being immunised against german measles before they leave school.

Hepatitis, an infection of the liver causing jaundice, was not very prevalent during 1971.

Routine vaccination against smallpox was discontinued during 1971. However, certain special categories of people are still advised to keep their vaccination up e.g. health staff who may come in contact with cases entering the country, ambulance personnel and travellers to areas where smallpox is endemic.

During the autumn holiday season, numbers of holiday-makers returning from the part of Spain where cholera had broken out were notified to the department for surveillance.

Influenza did not make the heavy impact that was anticipated during the 1970 - 71 winter.

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Social Services

In April 1971 most of the personal social services that had previously been administered by the County Health Department were passed to the new Social Services Department of the County Council.

Environmental Problems

The report on the environment is prepared by the Chief Public Health Inspector but a number of environmental matters are worthy of special mention.

The sewering of Orton and Norton-juxta-Twycross is the last new major scheme which needs to be completed in the district. In the long term one cannot help feeling that the whole of the Twycross Zoo Park will eventually have to be on a main sewerage system.

The final details of a new Markfield Sewage Disposal Works still awaits the ultimate decision on future population needs.

Progress has eventually been made despite many set-backs in the sewering of Park Lane, Bagworth.

Strong complaints from nearby residents were received during the summer of smell from the enlarged Newbold Verdon Sewage Works. It is unfortunate that there is no hard and fast rule as to the proximity which residential development may approach sewage disposal works.

In the housing field, progress was made in Ibstock towards the representation of clearance areas with the final objective of improving the environment in those areas.

A suggestion of public conveniences in the built-up area of Ibstock did not reach fruition.

Under the heading of Atmospheric Pollution it must be reported that frequent complaints were received of smell in Ratcliffe Culey from the 3M's plant in Atherstone Rural District. The management undertook various measures to minimise the smell during the periods when certain operations were likely to cause the trouble. It was often ascertained however that the smell was increased because of some breakdown in these remedial measures.

The smell of burning oil was frequently complained of from residents near the Ibstock Brick and Tile Works. A change-over from oil burning to natural gas was planned by the management and by early 1972 there was considerable improvement.

There were many complaints of noise from a cardboard carton shredding plant in Ratby. There was much controversy on the planning requirements. Finally it was felt that this piece of machinery would be less likely to disturb neighbouring residents if it were rehoused in a different part of the site.

A former bus garage on the A50 at Markfield was taken over by a transport firm as a staging post for maintenance of long distance heavy goods vehicles. There were many complaints of noise from the diesel vehicles starting up in the early morning and of noise from hammering in the sheds. This is a typical example of change of type of use of a site, which does not infringe planning permission, but which can affect the amenities of the neighbourhood.

Environmental Problems - Cont'd.

Finally, the problem of dogs fouling footpaths and gardens, particularly where there is the open type of residential development, arose in more than one parish. The problem is a difficult one to solve. At the time it was felt that the best means of obtaining public co-operation was by the display of propaganda type notices. The main complaints about dogs came from the parishes of Ibstock and Newbold Verdon.

These introductory notes are not meant to be comprehensive but rather to draw attention to some of the more outstanding features concerning the health of the district.

Acknowledgements

The main report on the environmental circumstances is prepared by Mr. Fyfe the Chief Public Health Inspector and speaks for itself and I am indebted to him and the Public Health Staff for their continued interest, enthusiasm and assistance during the year.

Finally I should say how grateful I am for the interest and support throughout the year from the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J B Kershaw

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS

Area (Acres)	63,955
Population Census 1961	27,519
ESTIMATED Population 1971	32,220
No. of Inhabited Houses	11,155
Rateable Value at 1st April 1971	£1,184,512
Estimated Sum Represented by a Penny Rate 1971/72 ...	£11,740

Vaccination and Immunisation Procedures

The following immunisation/vaccination procedures were carried out during the year by family doctors:

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis.

BCG vaccination (against tuberculosis) is carried out by school medical officers in the schools.

German measles vaccination is offered to girls of 11 years of age and upwards.

Ambulance Facilities. Home Nursing Service. Maternity and Child Welfare. School Health Services. Child Life Protection. Personal Health and Social Services.

These are the responsibility of the Leicestershire County Council.

In April 1971 the new Social Services Department of the County Council took over the following:

(a) Care of children (foster-homes, childrens homes, adoption, play-groups, day nurseries)

(b) Mental Health Service

(c) Care of the Elderly

(d) Care of the Physically Handicapped, Deaf, Blind and Disabled

(e) Care of unmarried mothers

(f) Home Help Service

VITAL STATISTICS

		MARKET BOSWORTH RURAL DISTRICT			ENGLAND AND WALES
		MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	TOTAL
ESTIMATED MID YEAR POPULATION				32,220	48,815,000
LIVE BIRTHS	Total	289	288	577 (533)	783,165
	Legitimate	277	277	554	717,491
	Illegitimate	12	11	23	65,674
STILL BIRTHS	Total	3	4	7 (9)	9,898
	Legitimate	3	4	7	8,826
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,072
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL-BIRTHS	Total	292	292	584 (542)	793,063
	Legitimate	280	281	561	726,317
	Illegitimate	12	11	23	66,746
DEATHS OF INFANTS	Under 1 Year				
	Total	2	-	2 (7)	13,726
	Legitimate	2	-	2	12,140
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,586
	Under 4 Weeks				
	Total	1	-	1 (2)	9,113
	Legitimate	1	-	1	8,121
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	992
	Under 1 Week				
	Total	1	-	1 (2)	7,750
	Legitimate	1	-	1	6,903
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	847
DEATHS ALL AGES		188	173	361 (351)	567,345

(1970 Figures in Brackets)

VITAL STATISTICS - RATES

	MARKET BOSWORTH R.D.	ENGLAND AND WALES
LIVE BIRTHS		
Per 1000 Home Population (Crude Rate)	17.9	16.0
Area Comparability Factor	1.04	1.00
Local Adjusted Rate	18.6	16.0
Ratio of Adjusted Rate to National Rate	1.16	1.00
Illegitimate Live Births as a Percentage of All Live Births	4	8
STILL BIRTHS		
Still Births per 1000 Total Live and Still Births	12	12
INFANT MORTALITY		
Deaths under 1 Year Per 1000 Live Births	3	18
Legitimate Infant Deaths Per 1000 Legitimate Live Births	4	17
Illegitimate Infant Deaths Per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births	-	24
NEONATAL MORTALITY		
Deaths under 4 Weeks Per 1000 Live Births	2	12
EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY		
Deaths under 1 Week Per 1000 Live Births	2	10
PERINATAL MORTALITY		
Still Births plus Deaths under 1 Week Per 1000 Live and Still Births	14	22
DEATHS ALL AGES		
Per 1000 Home Population (Crude Rate)	11.2	11.6
Area Comparability Factor	.90	1.00
Local Adjusted Rate	10.1	11.6
Ratio of Adjusted Rate to National Rate	.87	1.00

CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)
(Registrar General's Classification)

	Males	Females
All Causes	188 (195)	173 (156
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-
Whooping Cough	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, Etc. ...	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	5	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung	10	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	4	-
Leukaemia	3	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	9	13
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	7
Other Endocrine Etc. Diseases	-	1
Anaemias	-	1
Meningitis	-	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	2
Hypertensive Disease	2	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	34	31
Other Forms of Heart Disease	15	12
Cerebrovascular Disease	36	41
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	10
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	13	13

Causes of Death (All Ages) - Cont'd.

	Males	Females
Bronchitis and Emphysema	16	2
Peptic Ulcer	4	-
Appendicitis	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	-
Chirrosis of Liver	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Other Diseases Genito-Urinary System	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour Etc.	1	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	-	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	1
All other Accidents	3	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	-	3

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

Age At Death	Total All Causes
Under 4 Weeks	1
4 Weeks and Under 1 Year	1
1 - 4 Years	2
5 - 14 Years	-
15 - 24 Years	6
25 - 34 Years	3
35 - 44 Years	3
45 - 54 Years	12
55 - 64 Years	54
65 - 74 Years	101
75 and over	178
	361

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Deaths from Certain Causes During Last Five Years

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Tuberculosis	2	4	2	2	1
Coronary Disease	43	66	72	76	65
Lung Cancer	13	18	27	19	14
Bronchitis	18	16	24	8	18
Leukaemia	2	-	1	2	5

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	Quarter Ending			
	31st March	30th June	30th Sept.	31st Dec.
Measles	10	10	-	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-	1
Whooping Cough	1	3	5	-
Dysentery	-	-	1	-
Meningitis	-	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	1	2	1	1
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	1	1	-

Food poisoning organisms were isolated from 7 patients. Three separate families in different parts of the district were involved.

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JBK/MP

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

It is again my pleasure to present an Annual Report on the work carried out during 1971 by the Public Health Inspectors and Sewage Disposal Staff. Pleasure tinged with a certain amount of regret that this will be my last report as a member of the Staff.

The report is of course built up from statistics and one has to read between the lines to realise the large amount of seemingly unproductive work that can go into solving one small complaint, one of the main objectives of a Public Health Department being to prevent a small complaint or nuisance to escalate.

The indiscriminate dumping of household discards continued during the year without any apparent decrease. We are one of the few authorities to arrange a free removal of any household material whatsoever and one is forced again to the conclusion that this tipping is from "outsiders" where free removals do not exist.

It is becoming an annual custom to comment on the insidious growth of noise from larger and heavier road vehicles. This is one of the major contributory factors in pollution of the Environment and it can and must be controlled before the human hearing equipment is ruined.

Water Supply

The supply of water to the district is under the control of the Leicester Water Board and the North West Leicester Water Board.

We were fortunate to have had to suffer no curtailment of supplies during the year.

Complaints of considerable discolouration were referred to the Water Undertaking concerned who in every case asserted that although the water was discoloured it was perfectly safe to drink.

3 samples of mains water were taken for Bacteriological Examination - all proved to be satisfactory.

With regard to examination of well supplies, 7 Bacteriological samples proved satisfactory and 6 unsatisfactory.

10910 houses with a population of 31478 have a mains water supply and approximately 400 houses with a population of 750 rely on supplies from wells.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

During the year Belchers Bar Nailstone, Osbaston Hollow Osbaston, Stapleton Lane Kirkby Mallory, Mill Lane Shenton, and part of Melbourne Road Ibstock were all provided with sewerage facilities.

The Sibson, Shenton, Upton and Wellesborough scheme was completed and Peckleton Lane Desford and Leicester Lane Desford schemes were commenced.

The scheme for Orton-on-the-Hill and Norton-Juxta-Twycross made little tangible progress during the year and the possibility of Twycross Zoo premises becoming part of the scheme is being considered.

86 cesspools were abolished during the year and 11 new ones constructed.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal - Cont'd.

The estimated number of domestic cesspools in the district is 450. A free cesspool emptying scheme is in operation. This allows for each domestic cesspool to be emptied twice in any period of 12 months free of charge. Additional emptyings are charged at £2.00 per emptying. Business premises, farms etc. are charged £2.50 per hour.

The total number of sewage disposal works in the Rural District is 21 with 96 pumps to maintain and 30 ancillary pumping stations to keep in constant operation.

Closet Accommodation

Of the total number of 11,155 houses in the district 10,955 have water closets and 200 pail closets, which latter are emptied weekly by the Council.

9 pail closets were converted to water carriage. A grant of £12 per conversion is payable except in cases where an Improvement Grant is possible.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

House refuse is collected weekly from every Parish in the district, using a fleet of 3 large compression vehicles, 2 fore and aft tippers, 1 with nightsoil tank fitted, and 1 side loader.

For the purpose of cesspool emptying two 1500 gallon capacity tankers are used - the contents being taken to the Market Bosworth Sewage Works for treatment.

One tipping site is in use for refuse situated in Tilcons' Quarry at Cadeby, and the Council is grateful for the continued use of the quarry at no charge.

Trade waste is now being collected on a contract payment basis from shops and small factories.

Litter bins are provided by the Council throughout the district as requested and eight street orderlies are in use each weekend for paper collection in streets.

The refuse collection incentive bonus scheme is running smoothly and all the men appreciate the benefit of the scheme to them and the ratepayers are provided with a very regular collection.

Appreciation is again expressed of the splendid way the Refuse Collection employees have worked - 13992 tons of house refuse were handled during the year which averages 666 tons per man.

Sanitary Inspection of Premises

The total number of complaints received was 103 in relation to 94 premises.

8 Statutory Notice on Public Health was served and 3 complied with during the year.

Notices Served

Informal	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January	11	18
Issued during year	24	48
Complied with during year	31	57
Outstanding 31st December	4	9
Formal		
Outstanding on 1st January	-	-
Issued during year	4	8
Complied with during year	2	3
Outstanding 31st December	2	5

Inspections Made

	Number of Inspections
Animal Keeping	4
Bakehouses	3
Dairies	-
Drainage Works	179
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	645
Infectious Disease Inquiries	12
Food Poisoning Inquiries	4
Food Premises (Inc. Vehicles)	297
Offensive Trades	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	302
Rodent Control (Excluding Rodent Operator visits)	25
Schools	-
Shops and Offices	153
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	895
Smoke Control	11
Verminous and Dirty Premises	-
Caravans, etc.	175
Water Supplies	42
Factories and Workplaces	3
Other Inspections	205
TOTAL :	2955

Disinfestations

Disinfection as opposed to Disinfestation is carried out on request after illness and where necessary bedding and mattresses are taken away and destroyed.

Rodent Control

The Council employs one full time rodent operator to maintain a rodent destruction service for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. Plus one part-time assistant.

Treatment is carried out free of charge at domestic premises but a charge is made for work on all other types of premises. Annual contracts for the extermination of rats and mice are offered to any non-domestic premises and during the present year, 45 of these contracts have been taken up with the local authority involving 62 premises including a number of farms and agricultural holdings.

The number of infestations dealt with during the year totalled 303 and for this purpose the number of inspections was 25 by Public Health Inspectors and 571 initial visits and surveys by the operator.

A further campaign against rats on farms was carried out in the autumn by local authorities in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland. We for our part publicised the campaign as far as possible and held a supply of rat bait for farmers to purchase as they required. The Ministry provided a demonstration on a farm in the district showing the best way to treat rats under various situations, but unfortunately only a handful of farmers visited the display even though it was on for a whole day. General publicity was much harder to get this year, although the local newspapers and periodicals did give the campaign quite a number of reports on various items.

I feel that although the campaign has done a lot of good unless constant pressure is kept on farmers for the idea of rat free farms the number of rats will again increase considerably.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963

In connection with this Act, a total number of 153 visits were made during the year.

Informal notices were served in respect of 31 minor contraventions.

Class of premises	Number Registered	Number of Inspections (General)	Accidents Reported	Contraventions		
				Found	Remedied	Outstanding 31.12.71
Offices	21	10	-	5	3	4
Retail Shops	62	43	-	20	16	18
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	1	1	-	2	-	2
Catering estabs., open to public, canteens	13	10	-	8	12	11
Fuel Storage depots	2	2	-	4	-	4
TOTALS :	99	66	-	39	31	39

Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963

7 premises are registered under the Act and the premises are of a good standard and maintained excellently.

Caravans

3 temporary site licences were issued for individual vans during the year.

4 permanent site licences are in operation for 31, 15, 10 and 3 caravans. Sanitary Conveniences and piped water are available on each site, and they are well conducted and cause no complaint. In addition there are 4 permanent individual sites and 7 temporary sites including Garlands Lane Gipsy site.

The number of caravans placed on licensed sites at the end of the year was 71.

Local Authorities are still being pressed by the Ministry to provide sites for gipsies and other travellers.

Regulated Buildings

Only one premise is now registered as an Offensive Trade, and gives no cause for complaint.

Pet Animals Act 1951

One premise is registered for the sale of Pet Animals.

Rag Flock Act 1951

No premises are registered for the purposes of this Act.

Food Hygiene Regulations

The steady improvement in general food hygiene has been maintained and it is a matter for satisfaction that formal action is rarely necessary. There are black spots, of course, and informal notices are usually complied with.

Food Hygiene Regulations - Cont'd.

The number of premises inspected was 146 for which 297 visits were made. 52 informal notices were issued - 56 have been complied with during the year leaving 49 outstanding.

Included in the above figures are inspections to 11 mobile shops.

Clean Air Act 1956

Sporadic complaints were received regarding fumes from the salt glazing processes and the new techniques mentioned last year are slow in materialising.

Two applications for prior approval were received and granted, and 2 applications for approval of chimney height received and approved.

The emission of granite dust from the Bradgate Quarry again caused much concern to the complainants, the factory management, and the Council. The control of quarries has now been taken over by the Alkali Inspectorate.

Occasional complaints are still being received regarding atmospherical pollution from a factory in the Atherstone Rural District.

Noise Abatement Act 1960

The complaints received regarding noise were mainly from industrial machinery but in addition complaints were received of slamming car doors, heavy lorries starting up during the early hours and barking dogs. Industrial noise at Ratby and Markfield again also raised many complaints.

In all cases genuine efforts were made to reduce the noise level and no formal action was taken.

Inspections and Supervision of Food

(a) Ice Cream

No Ice Cream manufacturing is carried out in the district but 144 premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

(b) Milk Supplies

17 samples were taken from bulk supplies for biological examination, 9 only of which were satisfactory. The other 8 were unsatisfactory because they showed evidence of Brucella Abortus. 3 notices were in force under Art. 20 Milk & Dairies (General) Regs. 1959 preventing the producers selling raw milk.

The number of Dairy Farms in the district is gradually decreasing and most of the milk now produced is collected and sent to large pasteurisation plants. Eight producers retail their own milk in the district.

(c) Meat and Other Foods

The four slaughterhouses in the district are licenced annually.

Under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 24 licences have been issued to slaughtermen for the slaughter of animals.

One of the slaughterhouses is a modern abattoir with a fairly large wholesale distribution trade, a large proportion of which is exported outside the district.

Under the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, the Council makes charges for meat inspection, the two larger establishments on a contract basis, and the other two based on the number of carcases inspected.

During the year, a total of 43,587 animals were slaughtered, 895 visits being made for the purpose of inspection. This was again an increase in kill of over 4,000 from last year, a rise of 10.5%.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	6188	443	34	15362	21560	-
Number inspected	6188	443	34	15362	21560	-
All Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned	9	8	7	7	53	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	902	144	6	206	2102	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	14.7	34.3	38.2	1.4	10.0	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	32	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	12	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-

Total Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned

Meat - 8 tons. 10 cwts., 2 qr. 12 lbs.

Offal - 8 tons. 6 cwts., 3 qr. 19 lbs.

In addition, 104¼ lbs. meat, liver and kidney
50 lbs. frozen chickens
8 lb. corned beef
4 lb. dried mixed vegetables
6½ lb. tin of gooseberries
443 items of frozen food were surrendered and destroyed.

No. of inspections to Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc., ... 45
Places where food (other than meat) is kept 252

Housing

I am obliged to Mr. Walton and the Surveyors Department for much of the following information - particularly relating to Improvement Grants.

Houses in the District

Total number of occupied houses 11,155
Total number of Council houses 2,127

Housing - Cont'd.

New Houses

	Council	Private Enterprise	Total
Houses completed during year	138	397	535
Houses in course of erection at end of year	108	288	396
Number of Post-War houses comleted	1917	4058	5975

Council House Applications

Total number of Applicants on List	691
Number of New Applications During Year	169

Inspection of Houses During Year

Total number of Houses Inspected	224
Inspections made for the Purpose	645
Houses found to be Unfit for Habitation	30

It has hitherto been the policy of the Council to deal with all unfit houses as individually unfit under Section 16 of the 1957 Housing Act but I am pleased to be able to report that during the year the Council declared its first two Clearance Areas and first Compulsory Purchase Orders. These consisted of 18 unfit houses in the two Clearance Areas and a total of 20 houses in the Compulsory Purchase Order. A further 12 demolition or closing orders were placed on unfit houses, 11 families being displaced involving 21 persons.

Repair of Houses

88 houses were rendered fit as a result of informal action. 4 Notices were served under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1957. 2 houses were made fit and closing orders rescinded under Section 24 Housing Act 1957.

Improvement of Houses - Housing Acts 1949 - 1969

Under the Discretionary Grant Scheme, the Council may help owners to improve their property up to a given standard and subject to a maximum grant of £1,000.

In general terms it is the practice to offer a grant of 50% of the approved cost up to the maximum £1,000 and applications received were as follows:-

1) From Owner/Occupiers	56
2) From Owners of rented property	41

86 applications were approved
64 houses were improved during the year

Housing - Cont'd.

Standard Grant Scheme

Grants are also made by the Council for the improvement of houses by the provision of standard amenities up to maximum of £155 but in certain circumstances it is possible to increase this amount if it is necessary to carry out additional works.

Applications for Standard Grants were received as follows :-

1) From Owner/Occupiers	49
2) From Owners of rented property	16
Total	65

58 applications were approved.

A total number of 67 properties were improved during the year.

Qualification Certificates

Number of applications for Qualification Certificates	25
Certificates issued	15
Provisional certificates issued	8
Applications deferred (pending repairs)	13
Applications refused	-
Total	61

Petroleum Acts

Annual Licences are issued by the Council in respect of all premises storing Petroleum Spirit or any inflammable petroleum based mixture.

All new petrol installations are tested before licensing and underground petrol tanks over 20 years old are required to be pressure tested to ensure they are still in a satisfactory condition. 186 visits were made for this purpose.

98 premises are licensed for storage, comprising 34 at garage and filling stations and 64 other premises.

Civic Amenities Act 1967

The removal of rubbish deposited unlawfully continues to be a problem and we could almost employ a vehicle full time running round clearing rubbish dumped in hedgerows, lay-byes, etc.

The removal and disposal of unwanted motor vehicles still causes me a slight problem mainly because we have not the equipment to remove abandoned vehicles and the difficulty in finding a scrap metal dealer willing to collect. However, during the year we towed 4 vehicles to our site provided for the deposit of vehicles under the Act, 5 were deposited there by their owners, 8 Notices were attached to vehicles saying we would remove and destroy after 7 days, and 6 of these vehicles had to be removed.

Factories Act 1961

Part I of the Act

Inspection for purposes of provision as to Health.

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
Sub. Sec. 11 Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	88	-	-

Factories Act 1961 - Cont'd.

No. of Cases in which defects were found :

	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outworkers (Secs. 110 and 111) Number in August List required by Sec. 111

Total number of Outworkers ... 35

Nature of Work	Outworkers Employed by Firms in District	Outworkers Employed by Firms Outside District
Hosiery	19	2
Underwear	-	-
Gloves	-	-
Shoes	-	7
Braces	-	-
Textiles	-	-
Umbrellas	-	-
Toys	-	-
Knitwear	-	7
Corsets	-	-
TOTAL :	19	16

Staff

The staff in the department consists of :

4 fully qualified Public Health Inspectors
2 Technical Assistants, one of whom has Meat Inspection Diploma
Sewage Works Manager
Secretary/Typist

To all of these I extend my grateful thanks for their help and friendly co-operation during the year, particularly to my Deputy, Mr. M. Jones, and Secretary, Miss Perry.

Geo H Fyfe

Chief Public Health Inspector

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GHF/MP

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